MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : That is a question on which opinions differ.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*) : Are women clerks less efficient?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : It is not a question of efficiency alone.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*) : Is it not more appropriate to have women clerks in the Women's College?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I have already stated that that is a matter of opinion ; and I do not wish to express an opinion on it at this juncture.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*) : Is there any possibility of anybody holding the opinion that men clerks would be more appropriate for the women's college?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : That is a hypothetical question.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*) : It is a direct question. I do not assume anything. There is no hypothesis in my question.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The member wants my opinion on the question as to whether there is any possibility of anybody holding the opinion different from his opinion on this matter. Such questions of opinion cannot be answered.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*) : What is the view of the Government on the matter?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : What matter?

MR M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*) : The appointment of women clerks in the Women's College.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There is no objection to that.

MR. M. GOVINDAN (*Nominated*) : Will it not be more desirable, will not the surroundings be more convenient for all, if women clerks are appointed in the Women's College?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There are various things to be considered, the kind of work to be done, the quantity of work to be done, the time of day when they have to work and ever so many other considerations.

Malayalam Shorthand.

384. MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Malayalam Shorthand is an optional subject of study for the English School Leaving Examination ;

(*b*) whether they have considered the desirability of making it a subject of study in vernacular schools ; and

(*c*) whether they have any proposal to make the subject more attractive to students?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) "Malayalam Shorthand" has been recommended by the Syllabus Revision Committee as a suitable optional subject of study for the English School Leaving Certificate Examination in the State.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): My question is whether Malayalam Shorthand is an optional subject of study in English Schools. That question has not been answered. It is stated in the answer that the Syllabus Committee has recommended that Malayalam Shorthand may be prescribed as an optional subject in English High Schools.

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) It is not an optional subject now.

MR A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Do the Government propose to make it an optional subject for the E. S. L. C. Examination?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): Government have not come to a decision in regard to that.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Did this committee go into the question of the syllabus for Vernacular Schools also?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government consider the desirability of making Malayalam Shorthand a subject of study in Vernacular Schools also?

MR. A. KUMARA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): Government will consider the question.

Duties of the Inspectors and the Inspectress of Schools.

335. **MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state what are the duties in respect of inspection of schools of—

(*a*) the Inspector of Vernacular Schools;

(*b*) the Inspector of English Schools; and

(*c*) the Inspectress of Girls' Schools?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) The member is referred to Chapters VIII and IX of the Inspection Code of the Education Department.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether this Inspection Code is available?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is available for sale in the Government Press.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is it the rule, Sir, that information contained in any Government publication will not be furnished to us in reply to our interpellations?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is too lengthy n the present instance.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly